9. Concessions to the Pulayas in the matter of assignment of house—sites and registry of Puduval lands.

MR. AIYEN KALI (*Member, Nominated*) stated that though certain lands in the Vilappil pakuthi, Neyyattinkara taluk, had been registered on concessional terms in the names of some Pulayas, the lands had not yet come into their possession. The lands were still in the possession of earlier occupants, whom the poor Pulayas could not hope to evict by means of litigation. The member therefore proposed that Government might themselves recover the lands and put them in the possession of the Pulaya registry holders.

The member then asked for the assignment of the following lands in the name of the Pulayas :

(i) Eight cents of Poramboke or other lands in the Trivandrum town for the purpose of putting up a Satrom for the use of the Pulayas ;

(ii) 178 acres of tarisu land in survey Nos. 236 and 238/2 forming part of the Vellayani Kayal and also 34 acres of land in survey No. 441 B forming part of the Karichal *Kayal* in the Neyyattinkara taluk.

(iii) 1 acre of land in survey No. 9197 B in the Quilon pakuthi, Quilon taluk, for the purpose of putting up a Satrom for the use of the Pulayas ;

(iv) All useful lands in the Ambalapuzha taluk which had been set apart for the depressed classes.

The member urged, in conclusion, for the abolition of fees for surveying lands assigned to the depressed classes and for the promulgation of a legislation for conferring on Pulaya tenants of lands the right to the value of the improvements they had from time to time made thereon.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Aiyan Kali, I shall consider the question of two Satroms for Pulayas, one at Trivandrum and another at Quilon.

As regards lands for Pulayas to live in near Trivandrum, there is an area of 18 acres of land near the Agricultural Farm at Trivandrum which the Protector of the Depressed Classes has asked for to be set aside for the depressed classes. But the unfortunate part of it is this. It seems there are numerous communities among the depressed classes and that all of them want the land each to the exclusion of every other community. That is the problem.

10. Difficulties experienced by the Cheramars under the present system of concessional registry of lands.

MR. PARADI ABRAHAM ISAC (*Member, Nominated*) pointed out how the so-called concessional registry of lands to the depressed classes was valueless in so far as the lands earmarked for registry were almost always unfit for cultivation. So far as the hilly tracts were concerned, the lands chosen were dry and arid ones, while the lands chosen in the low-lying regions were entirely water-logged. The areas set apart for registry in the taluks of Ambalapuzha, Changanachery, Vaikom Shertallai etc., were for example portions of the Vembanad backwaters, where owing to the depth of the water reclamation and cultivation were next to impossible. The member therefore requested that all the lands earmarked for registry to the depressed classes might be examined and where the lands were found to be unfit for cultivation good lands might be substituted in their place. While dealing with this aspect of the question, the member stated that the Cheramars in the Purakad pakuthi had since 1096 been in possession and enjoyment of the lands comprised in Survey Nos. 30/85, 30/4, 30/30, 30/31, 19/1, and 304/1 to 335/1 in that pakuthi, which they had taken possession of only because the lands allotted for registry to them in the pakuthi were entirely unfit for cultivation. He requested that these lands might be registered in the names of the occupants.

Reverting to the defects of the present system of registry, the member stated that if any of the earmarked lands were fit for cultivation, they were in the possession of prior occupants and Government in registering the lands to the Cheramars

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made no provision for the eviction of these occupants. He therefore suggested that Government might either evict the occupants of these lands before they were registered or substitute in their place good lands for registry to the depressed classes. Another difficulty which the member pointed out in regard to the registry of lands was about their survey and demarcation. As regards this, he suggested that special arrangements might be made by Government for the survey of the lands before they were registered.

The member next dealt with the registry of swampy tracts in reserved forests and said that portions of these tracts should be set apart for registry in favour of the depressed classes. The only concession that they desired in regard to the registry of these lands was that they might be permitted to pay the Taravila in instalments. The following swampy areas were particularly mentioned by the member, which he requested might be registered in the name of the Cheramars :—

1. Survey numbers 372/61, 62, 63, 64 in the Karikkattur Reserve, Changanachery taluk.
2. The Manapuzha Vayal, Vengathan Vayal, Ezhukum pathal etc., in the above reserve.
3. Portions of the Alapra reserve.
4. Portions of the swampy areas in the Neduvankad taluk.
5. Portions of the swampy areas in the reserve forests in the Muvattupuzha and Todupuzha, taluks.

The member then requested that the following lands might be registered in the name of the co-operative societies of the depresssed classes :—

1. The lands lying on the Trivandrum-Ponmudi road, 25th mile to the 27th mile, and the lands in survey numbers 408 to 415 in the Ottasekharamangalam Pakuthi, Neyyattinkara taluk.
2. (*a*) Three thousand acres of land in survey number 923/1, in the Ranni pakuthi, Pattanamtitta taluk ;

(*b*) Five hundred acres of land in Survey number 519, in the Pathanapuram pakuthi, Pattanapuram taluk.
3. (*a*) The fuel reserve in Kanjirapally South pakuthi.

(*b*) The Kalaketti Reserve in the Meenachil taluk.

The member then stated that owing to the partition of property among Nayars, Ezhavas etc., many of the depressed classes were rendered homeless and as a relief he suggested that the poramboke lands in or near important towns might be converted into colonies for the depressed classes. Where such lands were not available, Government might acquire lands, the cost of acquisition being recovered from the colonies.

In conclusion the member made the following suggestions for the uplift of the depressed classes :

(i) Appointment of a whole time Protector of the Depressed Classes ;
(ii) Appointment of an assistant to the Protector ;
(iii) Institution of a committee consisting of representatives of the depressed classes to assist the Protector and his assistant.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Abraham Isac, I shall give instructions that, in future, before land is allotted to members of the landless classes, the revenue officer himself goes and sees lands and not merely allots them from the Settlement Register. He must satisfy himself that the lands are suitable for cultivation.

In regard to the Protector of Depressed Classes which you advocate this year as you did last year, I would refer you to paragraph (5) of the address I delivered yesterday. I shall have the question, of a committee to help in the matter of selecting lands, taken up and separately considered.

II. Registry of lands in the name of the Pulaya co-operative societies in Central Travancore.

MR. DAIVATAN KUNJAN (*Member, Nominated*) dealt with the difficulties experienced by the Pulayas in getting lands. As a remedy he suggested that the Registrar of Co-operative Societies who was the Protector of the Depressed

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